

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 01921 070628Z
ACTION NODS-00

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R 070610Z APR 77 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3097

S E C R E T TAIPEI 1921

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MNUC, TW
SUBJECT: NUCLEAR REPRESENTATION TO THE ROC

REF: STATE 076252

1. DCM MET WITH VICE MINISTER CHIEN, APRIL 6, AND CONVEYED
SUBSTANCE REFTEL FOR WHICH CHIEN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION. HE
DID NOT PRESS FOR ANY FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS.

2. DCM ALSO TOOK OCCASION TO URGE UPON CHIEN THE IMPORTANCE
OF AN EARLY POSITIVE GROC REPLY TO OUR NOTE. IN THIS CON-
NECTION, DCM CALLED TO CHIEN'S ATTENTION THE REFERENCE TO
IAEA CONCERNS ABOUT THE GROC'S NUCLEAR RESEARCH PROGRAM
MENTIONED BY AMBASSADOR UNGER IN HIS MARCH 28 DEMARCHE TO THE
PREMIER. CHIEN SAID HE HADNOTED THIS REFERENCE, BUT THAT
HE HAD BEEN CONSISTENTLY ASSURED BY VICTOR CHENG (SECRETARY-
GENERAL OF AEC) THAT THE IAEA HAD ALWAYS BEEN SATISFIED
WITH ITS INSPECTIONS OF SAFEGUARDED FACILITIES AND HAD GIVEN
ROC A CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH, E.G., FOLLOWING IAEA'S JULY 1976
VISITATION. DCM COUNTERED THAT, DESPITE WHAT VICTOR CHENG
MIGHT BE REPORTING REGARDING IAEA "SATISFACTION", GROC
WOULD BE WISE TO CONSIDER MOST SERIOUSLY THE IAEA CONCERNS
MENTIONED BY THE AMBASSADOR. CHIEN AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE
"DISASTROUS" IF IAEA'S SAFEGUARDS WERE BROUGHT INTO QUESTION.

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DCM WARNED THAT THE DISASTER WOULD BE FURTHER COMPOUNDED IF
THE IAEA BROUGHT THE SOURCE OF ITS CONCERN TO PUBLIC ATTENTION.
CONVERSATION CONCLUDED WITH DCM REITERATION URGENCY OF MATTER
AND HOPE THAT EMBASSY WOULD BE RECEIVING FORMAL GROC REPLY
WELL BEFORE CHIEN'S DEPARTURE FOR WASHINGTON ON APRIL 14.
CHIEN MADE NO COMMITMENT BUT SAID HE WOULD DO HIS BEST.

3. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS PAST SEVERAL DAYS AMBASSADOR UNGER HAS ALSO EMPHASIZED TO Y.S. SUN (MINISTER ECONOMIC AFFAIRS) AND H.K. YANG (VICE MINISTER FOREIGN AFFAIRS) URGENT NEED FOR RESPONSE AND IMPORTANCE OF ROC ACCEPTING U.S. POSITION IN ITS ENTIRETY. WITH SUN, AMBASSADOR MADE SAME POINT AS ABOVE ABOUT IAEA CONCERNS. AMBASSADOR EXPECTS SEE CHOU SHU-K'AI TOMORROW TO DISCUSS MATTER ALONG SAME LINES.

4. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO PASS US MISSION IAEA VIENNA.
UNGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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